

In the Claims

1 (currently amended). ~~A~~An isolated *Salmonella* microorganism having an attenuating mutation which disrupts the expression of a~~an *ssaJ* apparatus~~ gene located within the Spi2 pathogenicity island, and an auxotrophic mutation which disrupts the expression of an *aroC* gene.

2-6 (canceled).

7 (previously presented). The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the attenuating mutation is within an intergenic region between *ssaK* and *ssaJ*.

8 (previously presented). The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the microorganism further comprises a heterologous antigen or a therapeutic protein.

9 (previously presented). The microorganism according to claim 8, wherein the antigen is a hepatitis A, B or C antigen.

10 (previously presented). The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the microorganism is *Salmonella typhi* Ty2.

11 (canceled).

12 (previously presented). A vaccine composition comprising a microorganism according to claim 1, and an adjuvant and a physiologically acceptable diluent.

13 (previously presented). The vaccine composition according to claim 12, comprising from about  $10^7$  to about  $10^{10}$  CFUs in a single dosage unit.

14 (previously presented). The vaccine composition according to claim 13, comprising from about  $10^8$  to about  $10^9$  CFUs in a single dosage unit.

15 (withdrawn). A method for treating or preventing a *Salmonella* infection, comprising administering to a patient a microorganism according to claim 1.

16 (withdrawn). The method according to claim 15, for the treatment of typhoid.